

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A ~~minus-strand RNA~~ Sendai virus carrying a foreign human CFTR gene, wherein ~~the wild-type of the foreign gene comprises in its sense strand sequence a part of an antigenome E-sequence of the minus-strand RNA-virus, and wherein the foreign human CFTR gene has been altered at the part of the E-sequence to lower the identity with the E sequence at the 5'-AGA_{5,6}C-3' sequence comprised in the sense strand of the wild-type of the gene such that the amino acid sequence encoded by the 5'-AGA_{5,6}C-3' sequence of the wild-type gene is maintained.~~

2-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A DNA encoding the genome RNA of the ~~minus-strand RNA~~ Sendai virus of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, or a complementary strand thereof.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for producing a ~~minus-strand RNA~~ Sendai virus carrying a human CFTR gene which is altered to lower mutation frequency, ~~wherein the gene sequence before alteration comprises a 5'-AGA_{5,6}C-3' sequence, and wherein the method comprises the steps of:~~

- (a) altering the 5'-AGA_{5,6}C-3' sequence comprised in the sense strand of the wild-type of the human CFTR gene such that the amino acid sequence encoded by the 5'-AGA_{5,6}C-3' sequence of the wild-type gene is maintained;
- (b) preparing a DNA encoding the genome of the ~~minus-strand RNA~~ Sendai virus into which the altered gene has been inserted, or a complementary strand thereof; and
- (c) reconstituting the ~~minus-strand RNA~~ Sendai virus by transcribing the DNA.

11-14. (Canceled)